GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1474
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2017
Job Opportunities for Differently Abled Persons
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Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

a) the population of differently abled persons in the country, category-wise;

b) whether the Government has initiated any new schemes for the betterment of differently-abled population in the country;

c) if so, the details thereof along with the total amount allocated during the years 2014-15 and 2015-16, State-wise;

d) whether the Government has chalked out any plans to provide appropriate skill / vocational training and separate employment exchanges, counseling centers to create specific job opportunities for the differently-abled in the country; and

e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI KRISHANPAL GURJAR)
(a): The population of persons with disabilities in the country, category-wise is at Annexure I.

(b) to (c): Following new schemes have been initiated for the betterment of differently abled population:
i. Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC) has been established with the objective to develop manpower for teaching and conducting research in Indian Sign Language.
ii. Accessible India Campaign (AIC) was launched on 3rd December, 2015 for creating universal accessibility for Persons with Disabilities in Built Environment, Transport, and Information & Communication Technology (ICT) ecosystem.
iii. Scheme of establishment of College for Deaf in each of the five zones of the country has been launched with the objective to provide equal educational opportunities to hearing impaired students for pursuing higher studies and improve the chances of employability and better quality of life through high education.
iv. Unique Disability Identification (UDID) is implemented with a view to create a national data-base for Persons with Disabilities and also to issue unique ID card to every person with disability.
v. Swavlamban Health Insurance (SHI) Scheme was launched on 2nd October, 2015 with the objective to provide affordable Health Insurance to Persons with Disabilities and to improve the general health condition and quality of life of PwDs.
No fund was released to the States under ISLRTC, AIC, College for Deaf, UDID and SHI for the year 2014-15 and 2015-16.
vi. State Spinal Injury Centre: Under the scheme, a comprehensive rehabilitation centre attached to the District hospital of State capital/Union Territory is set up with dedicated 12 beds with focus on the comprehensive management of Spinal Injuries. A sum of 50 lakhs was released during 2015-16 for Spinal Injury Centre at SMS Medical College, Jaipur, Rajasthan.
vii. Scheme of Support for establishment / modernization / capacity augmentation of Braille presses.
State-wise funds released for Braille Press during the years 2014-15
and 2015-16 is at Annexure II.

(d) to (e): Government has launched a National Action Plan for Skill Development of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) in March, 2015. The National Action Plan sets a target of skilling 5 lakh PwDs in the first three years i.e. 2015-16 to 2017-18. The NAP envisages skilling of PwDs through a network of empanelled training partners comprising of Government organizations and non-govt. organizations. The guidelines for skill development of PwDs have been framed as a part of the scheme of SIPDA (Scheme of Implementation of Person with Disabilities) Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights full Participation Act, 1995.
Right to Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 envisages special employment exchanges to create specific job opportunities for persons with disabilities.